


# Memorandum

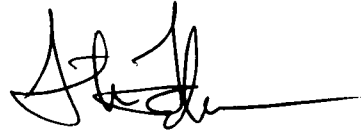
*Flex your power!  
Be energy efficient!*

To: DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
DEPUTY DIRECTORS  
DIVISION CHIEFS

Date: January 2, 2007

From: MARK LEJA   
Chief  
Division of Design

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Subject: Vegetation Control – Concrete Pavement Under Guardrail/Thrie Beam Barrier

The Department strives to provide roadside design solutions to reduce the need for recurring maintenance activities such as herbicide application, pruning, or mowing. To assist with this effort, new guidance has been developed for the placement of concrete pavement under new or reconstructed metal beam guardrail and thrie beam barrier. Updated guidance is available in the Highway Design Manual Index 706.1, Roadside Management, and the Project Development Procedures Manual, Chapter 29 and Appendix L. In addition, new Standard Plans A77C5 through A77C10 and A78C3 through A78C6, and new Standard Special Provision (SSP) SSP 83-025: "Vegetation Control (Minor Concrete)", are now available for use on the Division of Engineering Services web site at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/conststand.html>.

On projects that include new or reconstructed metal beam guardrail and thrie beam barrier, including single and double barrier, Vegetation Control - Minor Concrete should be considered as part of the guardrail or barrier design where vegetation control is necessary. The use of this feature should be determined during the Project Initiation Document (PID) phase. Appropriate judgment should be used in weighing the impact to scope, cost, and schedule when incorporating this treatment on projects that have advanced beyond the PID phase.

Early discussion by the Project Development Team, including the Project Engineer, District Landscape Architect, and District Maintenance is necessary to determine the suitability of using this roadside design feature. The final design must address additional project specific considerations, including hydraulics, storm water quality, aesthetics, and maintainability.

The use of other permanent vegetation control methods may also be considered in lieu of minor concrete. Alternative vegetation control methods are provided in the Roadside Management Toolbox on the Landscape Architecture Program web page at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/roadside/index.htm>.

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If you any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Jack Broadbent, Chief, Office of Roadside Management at (916) 653-3170 or Calnet 8-453-3170.

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